WATERS in Action

Enabling Informed Decision-Making

WATERS Forum

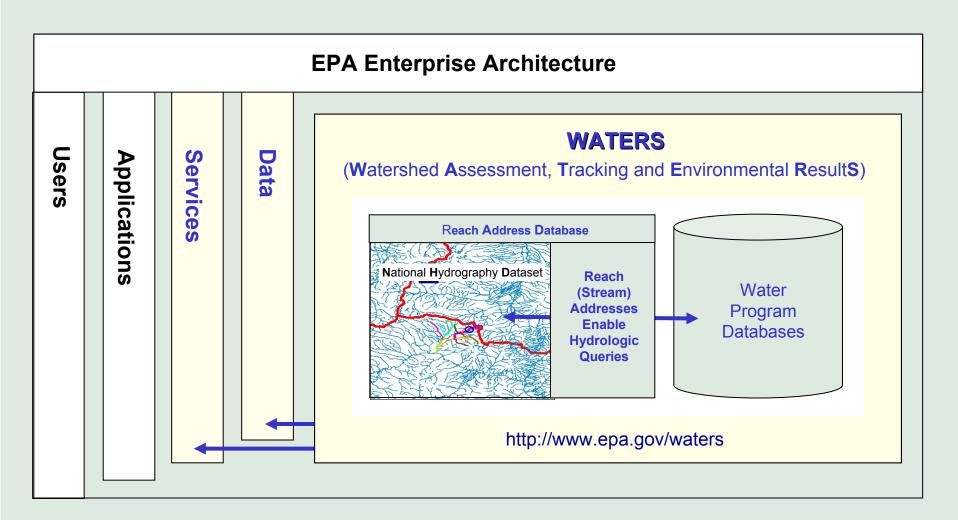
Ronald Reagan Building, Washington DC

December 4, 2003





WATERS within the EPA Enterprise Architecture



What is the National Hydrography Dataset (NHD)?

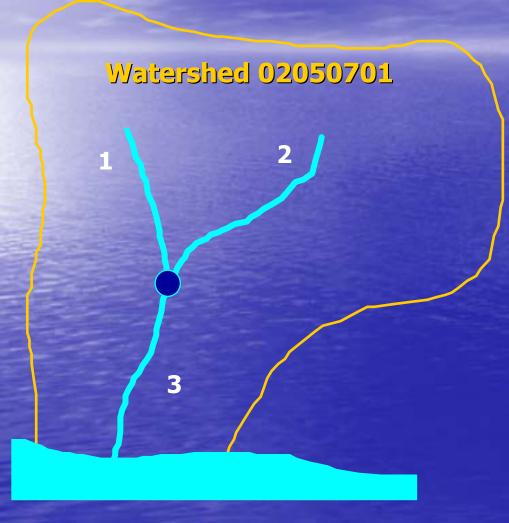
A framework dataset that includes:

- Hydrographic features for making maps
- A national stream addressing system
- A modeling network for navigating upstream/downstream
- A maintenance infrastructure

Data and information available at http://nhd.usgs.gov



What are NHD Reaches?



Watershed 02050701 contains 3 NHD reaches:

- **02050701<u>000001</u>**
- **02050701000002**
- **02050701000003**

which provide the framework for reach (stream) addresses in the same manner that streets do for street addresses

Data Accessible Through WATERS

Through 2002

- Impaired Waters
- Water Quality Standards
- Assessed Waters
- Beaches
- Sewage No Discharge Zones
- Nutrient Stations
- Fish Consumption Advisories

2003 Additions

- Water Quality Stations
- O National Estuary Programs
- Permitted Dischargers
- Nonpoint Source Projects
- Drinking Water Intakes
- O Drinking Water Wells
- Source Water Areas

- Linked to the NHD
- Not linked to the NHD

The WATERS Framework

Enables program integration based upon hydrography

 Spatial coincidence – features that exist at the same location on the network

Spatial proximity – features that are upstream or downstream from a location on the network

Uses of WATERS

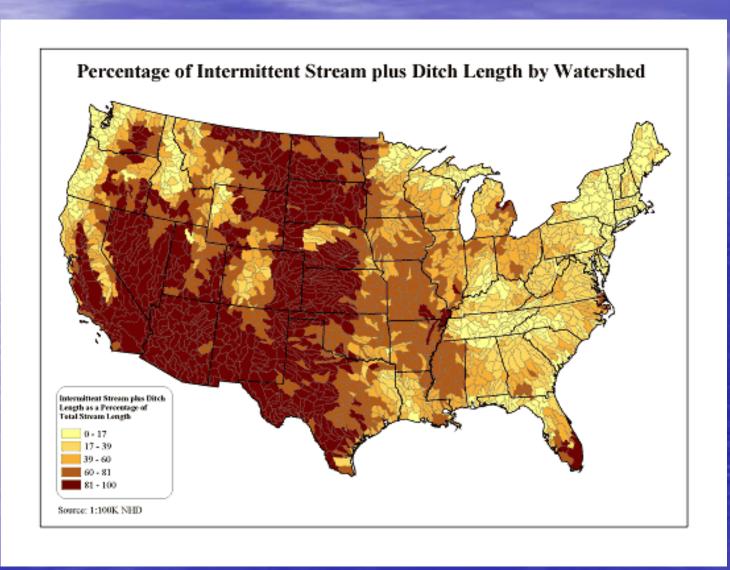
- Government Performance Measurements
 - Over half of OW GPRA measures require WATERS
- Reports to Congress
 - National Water Quality Inventory
 - Combined Sewer Overflows
- Regulatory Development
- Program Management
- Support to State Programs

Regulatory Development

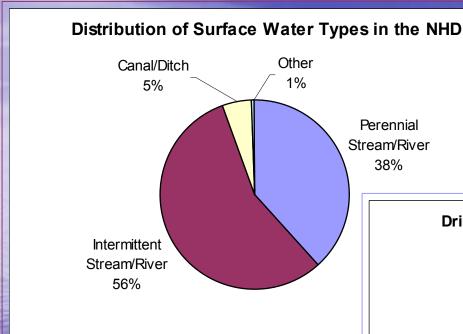
- National Policy alternative analysis driven by the SWANCC Supreme Court Decision concerning navigable waters and isolated wetlands
- Assessed the impact of redefining "navigable waters" to Clean Water Act Programs

Analysis Results

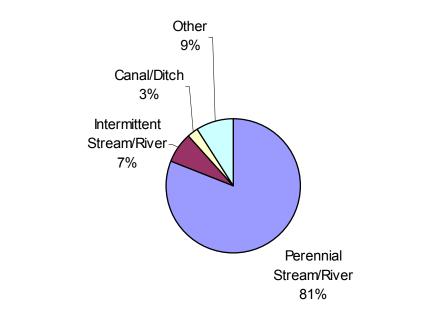
Scenario 1: Intermittent Streams and Ditches



Analysis Results



Impact of Scenario 1 on Drinking Water supplies

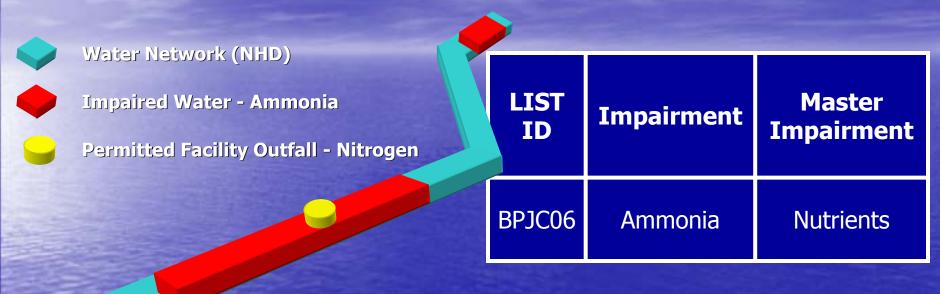


Drinking Water Intakes by Surface Water Type

Effluent Guideline Screening based on impaired waters

- Prioritize re-examination of guidelines based on possible environmental impact
- Compare Permit Compliance System discharge parameters of facilities within various industrial sectors to impaired waters

Effluent Guideline Screening Results based on impaired waters



NPDES ID	Parameter	SIC Code Description
0031500	Nitrogen, Ammonia Total (as N)	Carpets and Rugs

Effluent Guideline Screening Results based on impaired waters



Water Network (NHD)



Impaired Water - Ammonia



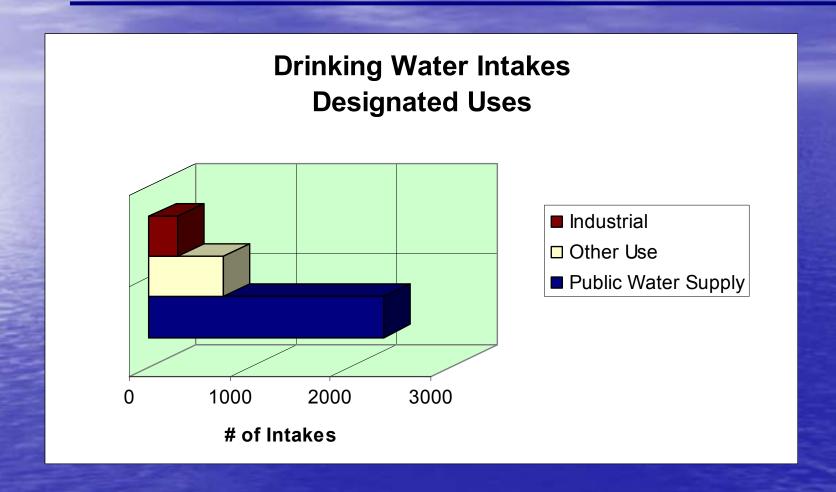
Permitted Facility Outfall - Nitrogen

Facilities Matched by Limits to Master Impairment by Indexed Facilities (%)	Total Facilities	SIC Code Description
55	23	Rolling, Drawing, and Extruding of Nonferrous Metals, Except Copper and Aluminum
46	24	Flat Glass
45	23	Carpets and Rugs
42	38	Cold-Rolled Steel Sheet, Strip, and Bars
41	188	Steel Works, Blast Furnaces

Integrated Program Management

- Are state's water quality standards appropriately designating public water supplies?
- Analyzed the overlap between surface drinking water intakes with designated uses of public water supply

Integrated Program Management

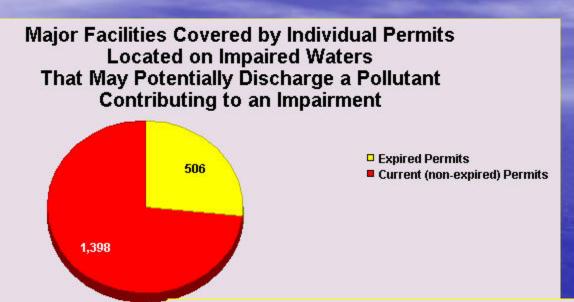


Majority of Drinking Water Intakes Were Located on Waters with a Designated Use of Public Water Supply

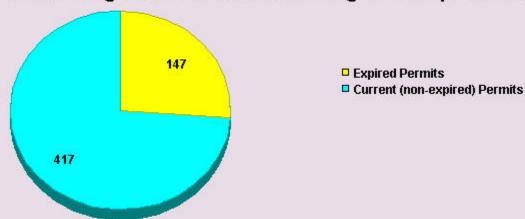
Permit Characterization

- Spatial and attribute overlaps identify NPDES permits "at risk" or "likely" to contribute to impairing a water's designated use
- Used to prioritize re-issuance of expired NPDES permits
- Used for Total Maximum Daily Load development and management

Permit Characterization



Major Facilities Covered by Individual Permits
Located on Impaired Waters
Not Likely to Discharge a Pollutant Contributing to an Impairment



Applications

- AskWATERS
- EnviroMapper for Water
- WEB Reach Indexing Tool (WebRIT)
- Drinking Water Mapping Application
- Window to My Environment (WME)
- Emergency Operations Center
- NEPA Assist

AskWATERS – Q&A Interface







intakes?

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Watershed Assessment Tracking & Environmental Results System

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GO

EPA Home > Water > WATERS > Tools > AskWaters





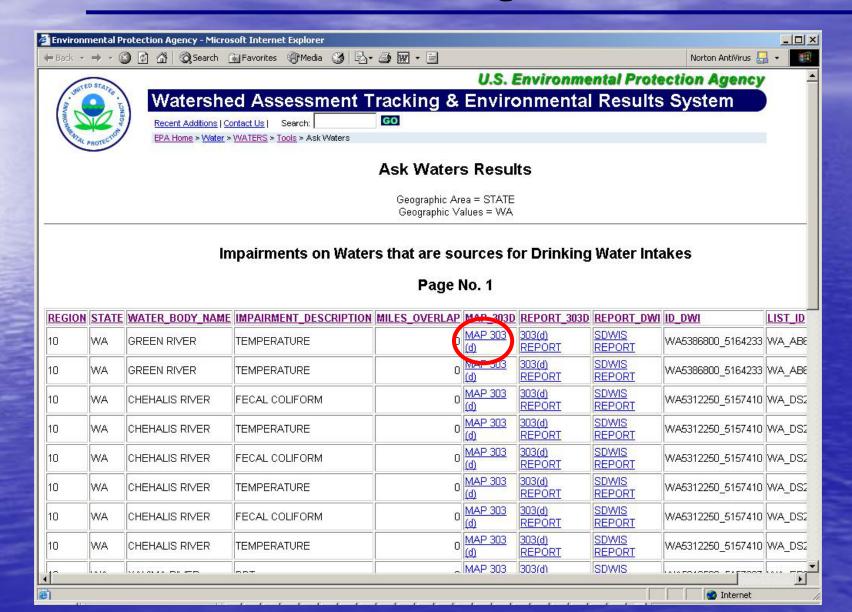
Questions

WATERS

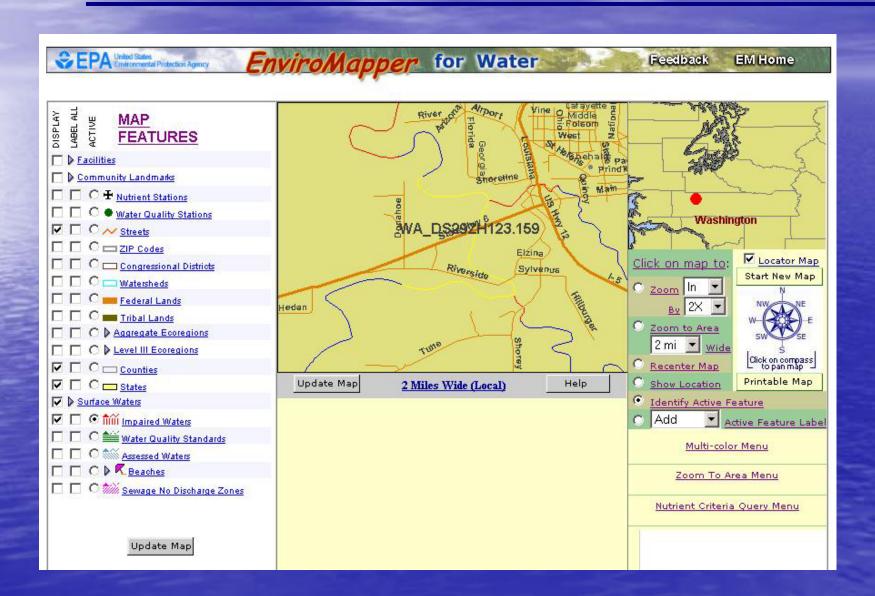
Click here to find your question based on applicable program, keyword, or metadata search.

Question	Report Description	Associated Programs
How many TMDLs have been completed since 1/1/1998?	Shows counts of Approved or Established TMDLs (Total Maximum Daily Load) with a corresponding chart. National, Regional and State reports are available.	Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) / NTTS, Water Quality Standards / WQSDB
How many Waters have been assessed as Impaired, Threatened, and Good?	Based on 2000 state assessments, a water quality inventory of the assessed waters of the United States detailing supporting, threatened, and impaired water uses.	Water Quality Inventory / NAD / 305(b)
How many waters are listed as impaired by were assessed as supporting their designated use(s)?	An inventory of waters identified by a spatial overlap between 303(d) impaired waters and 305(b) assessed waters that have attained water quality standards. These waters are now meeting water quality standards and should no longer be impaired.	Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) / NTTS, Water Quality Inventory / NAD / 305(b)
What is the inventory (count and size) of waters of interest to EPA?	Inventory of Water Systems that are Spatially Indexed	BEACH program, Safe Drinking Water / SDWIS, Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) / NTTS, Vessel Sewage Discharge / NDS, Water Quality Inventory / NAD / 305(b), Water Quality Standards / WQSDB
How many Drinking Water Intakes are on impaired weters?	Number of Drinking Water Intakes on Impaired Waters	Safe Drinking Water / SDWIS, Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) / NTTS
What are the impairments on impaired waters that are sources for drinking water	Impairments on Waters that are sources for Drinking Water Intakes	Safe Drinking Water / SDWIS, Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) / NTTS

AskWATERS – Q&A Results



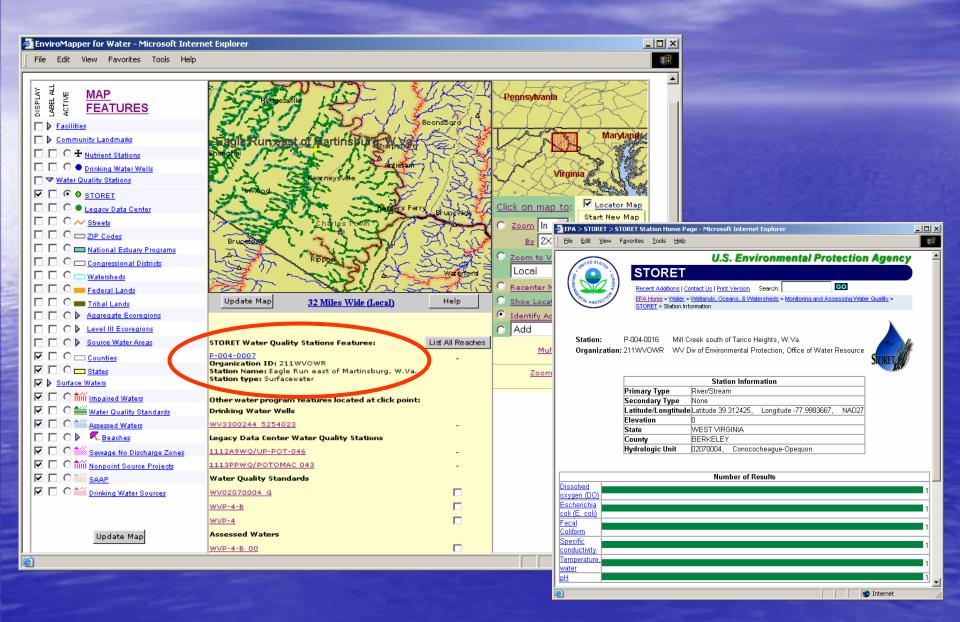
AskWATERS Invokes EnviroMapper



EnviroMapper for WATER

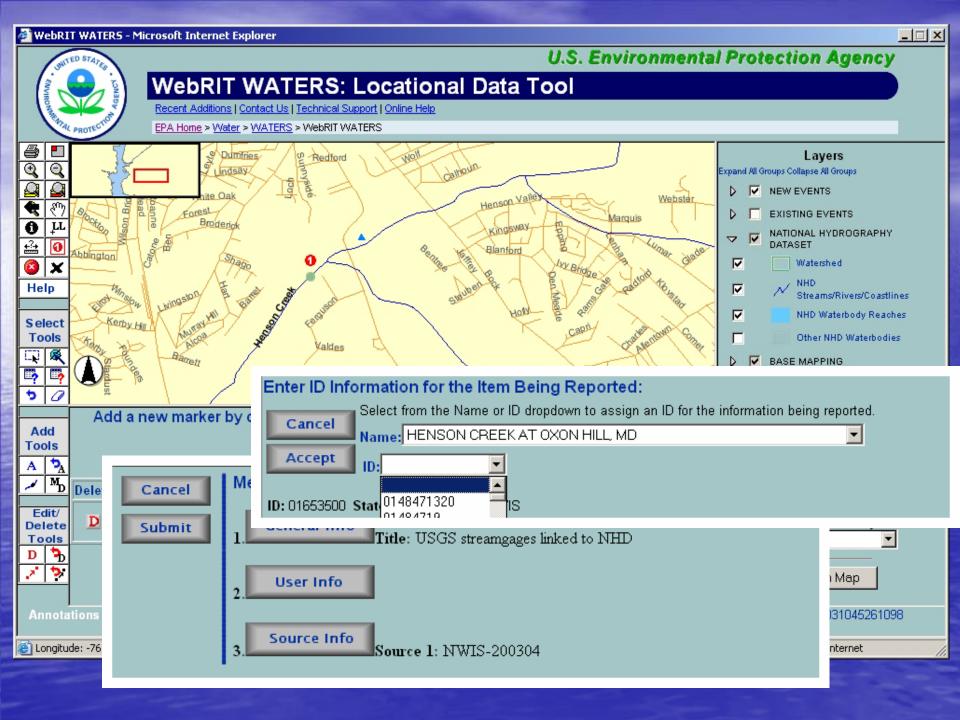
- View increasingly detailed map features at national, regional, state and local levels
- Drill down' report of all water program features at a specific location
- Dynamic querying of water program databases that contain detailed information on individual map features, such as impaired waters

EnviroMapper for Water 3.0



WebRIT

- Internet based location reach address data (NHD reach address, lat/long) collection tool
- Password protected by program and state or other area
- Reduces data collection costs and improves consistency
- Initial programs include Beaches and Non-Point Source



Web Services

- Upstream/Downstream
 - Provides water program data above or below a point on the network
- Total Waters
 - Provides count/sums of water information
- Mapping
 - Provide RAD-based map images or individual features
- Water Program Identify
 - Provides program water program data for a location on NHD stream network

Training and Outreach

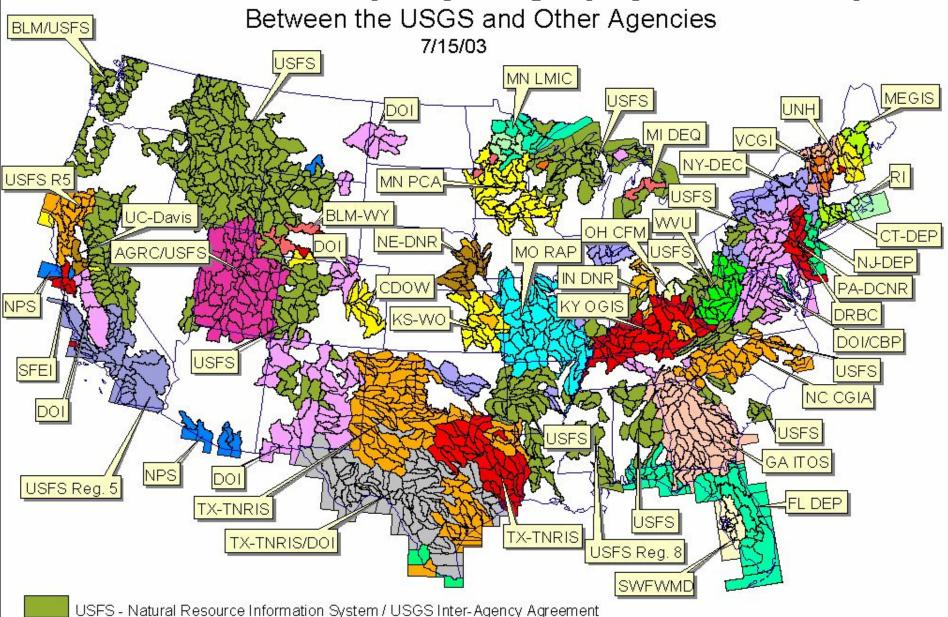
- Cross-program coordination role
 - Team-level
 - Regions
 - State/Tribal partners
- On-site training to HQ, Region and State clients
- On-line tutorials for applications
- Comprehensive technical support
 - waters_support@epa.gov
 - -1-800-844-0638

What's in the Works?

Enhancing the NHD Framework

- Value-Added Attributes
- Reach Catchments
- Flow Volume & Velocity Estimates
- High Resolution NHD

The National Map Hydrography Partnerships



The USFS is an additional partner in many agreements although not always indicated.

More on What's in the Works?

- Geospatial One-Stop Hydrography
 Standard and associated Central Data
 Exchange (CDX) template for linked data
- New data including Clean Water Needs Survey, Special Appropriation Act Projects, USGS gaging stations, COE dams
- Releases of WebRIT, EnviroMapper, AskWATERS, Services

Summary

- WATERS framework established
- More data available, more analyses possible, with greater access
- Enabling Informed Decision-Making

Find out more!

www.epa.gov/waters

Join us at:

- American Water Resources Association Conference - GIS and Water Resources
 - May 17-19, 2004 in Nashville, TN
- Environmental Systems Research Institute
 International GIS User Conference
 - August 9-13, 2004 in San Diego, CA